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**LAW ENFORCEMENT TEAM FROM SACRAMENTO AREA
AWARDED THE 2004 NATIONAL EXPLOITED CHILDREN'S AWARD
FROM THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN**

WASHINGTON, DC—United States Attorney McGregor W. Scott; Martin Ryan, Chief of the State Attorney General's California Bureau of Investigation; and Keith Slotter, Special Agent In Charge of the Federal Bureau of Investigation announced today that a law enforcement team from the Sacramento area received the 2004 National Exploited Children's Award for their work in the Jason Morgan case. Morgan, age 26, from Chico, allegedly posted notices seeking and offering to receive, exchange, and distribute visual depictions, the production of which involved the use of minors engaging in sexually explicit conduct. This investigation resulted in four other cases in the District, and hundreds of leads across the nation. This was the first time that the PROTECT Act was used, in the form of an electronic intercept order. Morgan's case is pending.

Special Agent Supervisor Jeff Mackanin of the California Bureau of Investigation in Rancho Cordova, Special Agent Reginald K. Ogata of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in Sacramento, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Laurel White from the Eastern District of California in Sacramento, accepted awards presented by Senator Barbara Boxer for their joint efforts in combating online child pornography that has led to several arrests.

"Attorney General Bill Lockyer and his California Bureau of Investigation are extremely proud of the award recipients for their outstanding and innovative approach to this investigation. It is only through law enforcement partnerships such as this that we can hope to reduce the proliferation of child victimization, via the Internet, in this state and throughout the country," stated Chief Ryan.

United States Attorney Scott stated: "Our district is greatly honored to have received this most prestigious, national award. It is testament to the high priority federal, state, and local agencies in our community place on protecting our children."

The National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) is a nonprofit organization working in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Justice's Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention. Serving as the national clearinghouse for information and a resource center for child protection, NCMEC has worked with law enforcement on 98,000 missing child cases, resulting in the recovery of 83,000 children. NCMEC's CyberTipline has handled more than 240,000 leads of child sexual exploitation. For more information, please visit

www.missingkids.com <<http://www.missingkids.com>> or call 1-800.THE.LOST.

A copy of this press release is available at <http://www.usdoj.gov/usao/cae/home>, select Press Releases.

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